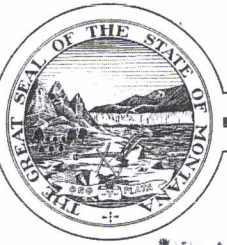


COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

STATE ADMINISTRATION

Exhibit No. 2
Date 3-25-2013
Bill No. SR 24



STATE OF MONTANA

JAMES W "JIM" MURRY
COMMISSIONER
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942
FAX (406) 444-1643

1205 Eighth Avenue
PO BOX 202401
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

March 25, 2013

Dear Chairman Arthun and members of the Senate
State Administration Committee,

I understand my confirmation hearing is scheduled for March 25, 2013. While I'm honored to have served as the Commissioner of Political Practices and appreciate being scheduled for a confirmation hearing, I respectfully do not intend to seek confirmation. Governor Schweitzer appointed me as Commissioner of Political Practices on February 6, 2012. Because of my age and health considerations, it was never my intention to serve in the capacity as Commissioner for an extended period of time. My intent is to finish the term of my interim appointment, pursuant to Montana Code Ann. 13-37-104 (1).

As you might remember I came to the office of Commissioner of Political Practices during turbulent times. My hope was to work to restore confidence in the office and improve the decision making process. Working with our small staff, all of whom are outstanding and committed public servants, those goals have been largely accomplished.

Some of our accomplishments over the past year are as follows:

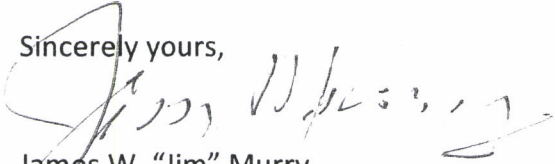
1. Implemented Legislatively mandated electronic filing for statewide candidates
2. Processed, audited and certified the following:
 - a. 872 Candidates
 - b. 160 Ballot Issue/Incidental Committees
 - c. 156 PACS
 - d. 126 Party Committees
3. Registered approx. 600 principals
4. Registered approx. 650 lobbyists
5. Issued 19 decisions
6. Dismissed 15 complaints
7. 10 active investigations
8. 16 investigations completed, pending legal time
9. 12 Law Suits
10. Implemented Information Security and Continuity Plan

Chairman Arthun and members of the Committee, the office of the Commissioner of Political Practices is critical in maintaining transparent and accountable elections. Our staff in the

commissioner's office is one of the best I've ever had the privilege of working with. I close by urging your support of measures which assist this office in its important mission. Thank you.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Murry", written over the typed name.

James W. "Jim" Murry
Montana Commissioner of Political Practices

cc. Governor Steve Bullock
Senator Ron Arthun, Chair
Senator Dee Brown, V. Chair
Senator Anders Blewett
Senator Larry Jent
Senator Scott Sales
Senator Kendall Van Dyk
Senator Roger Webb
Nadine Spencer, Secretary
Rachel Weiss, LSD Research Analyst